

# South Dakota LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

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News Release

September 24, 2004

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## ***COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP***

**SIOUX FALLS, September 24, 2004** – Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 83.3 million pounds during August. This was up 6 percent from one year ago and up 12 percent from last month, according to USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. For August, pork production and sheep and lamb production were up from one year ago.

Commercial hog slaughter for South Dakota totaled 406,600 head during August compared to 376,000 head last year. Average live weight was 255 pounds, which was the same as August 2003. Federally inspected slaughter totaled 405,600 head, which was comprised of 6,200 sows and 399,400 barrows and gilts.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 1,400 head during August compared to 900 head last year. Average live weight was 126 pounds, which was up 3 pounds from August 2003. Federally inspected slaughter totaled 1,100 head of lambs and yearlings.

Commercial slaughter data for beef cattle is not published.

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